Council for Medical Research as members, undertakes periodical visits to the districts with low child sex ratio (0-6 years) to oversee the implementation of the Act at ground level and monitors the prosecutions launched against unregistered bodies and bodies violating provisions of the Act/Rules and directions of the Supreme Court of India in the matter. The National Support and Monitoring Cell is being constituted as **a** mechanism to help Appropriate Authorities in apprehending the wrong doer who are committing female foeticide/abetting female foeticide.

It is, however, recognized that mere legislation is not enough to deal with thir. problem that has roots in social behavior and prejudices. A number of activities to create awareness on the issue are being undertaken. The initiatives include meeting with the organizations working against sex selection, involvement of the medical professionals, religions leaders to spread the message, requesting police training academies and schools to include the issues in curriculum of their training, telecasting of video spots on private satellite channels and Doordarshan, and involvement of elected representatives etc. A 'Save the Girl Child" Campaign with a view to lessen son preference by highlighting achievements of young girls has been launched. District Magistrates have also been requested to regularly review the implementation of the Pre-concepticn and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques Act along with other health programmes in their district.

Upgradation of Thiruvananthapuram Medical College

1259. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the upgradation of the medical college hospital at Thiruvananthapuram to the level of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, has been received from the Government of Kerala;

(b) whether Government have taken any decision on the above proposal; and

(c) whether Government would consider to accord sanction from the abeve proposal and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) This Ministry has received a proposal from Government of Kerala for upgradation of Government

Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram to the level of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), it is proposed to upgrade one Medical Institution each to the level of AIIMS in various States including Kerala. The proposal from Kerala will be considered as and when the approval to PMSSY Scheme is obtained from the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

Representations by Electro-homoeopathy Doctors

1260. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received many representations from the Association of Electro-Homoeopathy doctors for introduction of The Recognition of New System of Medicine Bill-2005", in the Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Government's efforts to save the career of doctors who are engaged in the practice of Electro-Homoeopathy and other alternative systems of medicine?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) The Government has constituted a Standing Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research and members were drawn from various fields of medicine to consider and give its recommendations to the Government on the efficacy/merits of various streams of alternative medicine and also examine the feasibility of making legislation as suggested by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. The Committee developed essentia! and desirable criteria for grant of recognition to a new system of medicine and analysed the different streams of alternative medicine including electro-homoeopathy. The Committee did not recommend